



**AVON VALLEY  
CHURCHES**  
LOVING • CONNECTING • SERVING

# **Holy Communion**

**Sunday Next Before Lent (Year B)**

**TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**

***Valentine's Day***

**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 10.00 AVC On-Line, 10.00a.m.**

*If you would like to share symbolically in the Last Supper, you might like to have a piece of bread and/or some wine by you.*

***The Greeting***

*The minister greets the people and says*

The Lord of all transformation bless you.

**The Lord Bless you.**

Creativity and light belong to God,

**Let all the earth rejoice.**

Justice and glory belong to God,

**Let all the earth rejoice.**

Wisdom and wonder belong to God,

**Let all the earth rejoice.**

When we get it amazingly wrong,

**God loves us.**

When we get it superbly right,

**God loves us.**

When we have no idea at all what is happening,  
**God loves us.**

When we get it amazingly wrong,  
**God loves us.**

When we walk with God,  
**God loves us.**

*(Bare Feet and Buttercups, Burgess, p.252)*

*HYMN: FROM ASHES TO THE LIVING FONT*

1. From ashes to the living font  
your Church must journey, Lord.  
baptized in grace, in grace renewed  
by your most holy word.
2. Through fasting, prayer, and charity  
your voice speaks deep within,  
returning us to ways of truth  
and turning us from sin.
3. From desert to the mountain top  
in Christ our way we see,  
so, tempered by temptation's might  
we might transfigured be.
4. For thirsting hearts let waters flow,  
our fainting souls revive;  
and at the well your waters give  
our everlasting life.
5. From ashes to the living font  
your Church must journey still,  
through cross and tomb to Easter joy,  
in Spirit-fire fulfilled.

*Alan J Hommerding (AMRW 123, T. Amazing Grace, Richmond, or other CM)*

## **Penitence**

*The Minister introduces a time for reflection.*

### **Prayer of Confession**

Your unfailing kindness, O Lord, is in the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, and your justice as the great deep:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For with you is the well of life:  
and in your light shall we see light:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*(ECY, 8B1)*

### **The Absolution**

May the God of everlasting love, who is eternally forgiving, pardon and restore you, and make you one with him in the transfiguring glory of his creation.

**AMEN.**

### GLORY TO GOD

*The Peruvian Gloria*

*Cantor:* Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Father,  
*(Repeat all)*

*Cantor:* To him be glory for ever, *(Repeat all)*

*Cantor:* Alleluia, Amen. *(Repeat all), etc.*

2. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to Christ Jesus...

3. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Spirit...

## The Collect

Holy God,  
**you know the disorder of our sinful lives:  
set straight our crooked hearts,  
and bend our wills to love your goodness  
and your glory  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
AMEN.**

(CW Alt, I Before Lent)

### ***The New Testament Reading: II Corinthians 4:3-6***

For the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### ***HYMN: CHRIST OF THE MOUNTAIN, SHINING IN THE LIGHT***

1. Christ of the mountain, shining in the light,  
walks with the saints of prophecy and law.  
His friends, so dazzled by the wondrous sight  
could never tell exactly what they saw.

2. Christ of the heights, in your perfection shine  
across the ages let your love be shown,  
for though your presence is such love divine  
it is in this world that it must be known.

3. Christ of the low place of our human sin,  
you touch the needy and forgive their pain,  
drive out the evil and let love begin  
to find the wholeness of our life again.

4. Christ of our history and the empty tomb,  
always surprising those who follow you,  
into our lives, into each hidden room,  
you can break in to challenge us anew.

5. Christ of the heavens, promise for always,  
keep shining in your followers today,  
so we may show the glory of your praise  
and walk with faith in your surprising way.

*Colin Ferguson (born 1937), © 2012 Colin Ferguson. (T. Woodlands)*

### ***The Gospel Reading: Mark 9:2-9***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end, the Reader says:*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Please stand*

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

*cf Ephesians 3 (NPfW E12)*

## Intercessions

*We begin our intercessions by singing:*

**GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL (VICTORY IS OURS)**

Goodness is stronger than evil;  
Love is stronger than hate;  
Light is stronger than darkness;  
Life is stronger than death;  
Victory is ours, victory is ours  
through him who loves us.  
Victory is ours, victory is ours  
through him who loves us.

*Desmond Tutu, CCLI Licence No. 785142.*

*During the Prayers:*

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

*At the end:*

**Merciful Father:**

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

**AMEN.**

## **The Peace**

Jesus said:

' Love one another.

As I have loved you,

so you are to love one another.'

*cf John 15.12*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*If you are with someone else, you might like to share a sign of Peace.*

*If you are on your own, pray for everyone to discover the transfiguration  
that comes from God's love poured into the world.*

OFFERTORY HYMN: CHRIST, WHOSE GLORY FILLS THE SKIES

1. Christ whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of righteousness arise,  
Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near,  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by thee;  
Joyless is the day's return,  
Till thy mercy's beams I see,  
Till they inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3. Visit then this soul of mine,  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiance divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

**THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

God of mercy and compassion  
**your Word calls us home to faith and love.**  
**Accept all we offer you this day;**  
**in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.**  
**AMEN.**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

AL

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Great and glorious God, we praise you that in your Son, Jesus Christ, you offer us strength in our weakness, sight for our blindness and life for our deadness; with all who have come out of darkness to live in your light, we praise you, *singing*:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Be present with us now, Lord God, as we remember Jesus, who, on the night before he died, took bread and wine, gave you thanks, and offered them to his friends, saying, 'This is my body, this is my blood, eat and drink to remember me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Come freshly to us now, Lord God: call us again to be your friends; free us from the fear that the cost will be too great; nourish us always with the true bread; and transform the ordinariness of our lives with the wine of your abundant grace. May your love overflow through us, so that the world will come to know your glory, and to live your praise:

**Blessing and honour  
and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
AMEN.**



*We keep a period of silence at the end of the Prayer.*

## **THE COMMUNION**

Joining our prayer with the whole of God's creation,  
as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray.

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. **AMEN.****

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

Eat this in memory of one who died,  
in honour of one who lives,  
in anticipation of one who will come again.

Drink this,  
recalling the past,  
celebrating the present  
and trusting in God's future.

(FYFM, 92)

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, broken for us all.  
The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, shed for us all.

*If you have bread and/or wine, then share it with those present as a symbol of our participation in the Body and Blood of Jesus.*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER *of the Day is said, and then:*

God of our pilgrimage,  
**you have fed us with the bread of heaven.**  
**Refresh and sustain us**  
**as we go forward on our journey,**  
**in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**AMEN.**

THE NOTICES

*HYMN: LORD, YOUR POWER HAS CALLED TO BEING*

1. Lord, your power has called to being  
all that fills the earth below,  
myriad stars beyond our seeing,  
tiniest creatures that we know;  
earth and air and fire and water  
woven in the grand design  
witness to the final meaning  
of your love in human kind.

2. Human lives are made for sharing;  
joined in trust and truth we grow,  
speech or silence opening pathways  
to the hearts we seek to know.  
Welcome love, by your renewal  
worn out ways turn upside down;  
weak is strong, success is failure  
and the wise becomes the clown.

3. From your self we take our nature,  
maker, parent, love divine.  
Bound into your life we flourish,  
leaves and branches of the vine.  
Through the Christ we see your pattern,  
life surrendered, life restored:  
echoing through all creation  
sounds the spirit's deep accord.

4. Love releases us for taking  
one more risk than we might dare;  
glory breaks through dark and danger,  
shows the Lord transfigured there.  
God who planted our affections,  
help your gifts to grow more free,  
fan in us the fires of loving,  
daring, dancing Trinity.

*Michael Hare Duke (born 1925) © 1991 Stainer & Bell Ltd. (T. Blaenwern)*

## **Blessing and the Dismissal:**

### ***Dazzling: A Blessing for Transfiguration Sunday***

Believe me, I know  
how tempting it is  
to remain inside this blessing,  
to linger where everything  
is dazzling  
and clear.

We could build walls  
around this blessing,  
put a roof over it.  
We could bring in  
a table, chairs,  
have the most amazing meals.  
We could make a home.  
We could stay.

But this blessing  
is built for leaving.  
This blessing  
is made for coming down  
the mountain.  
This blessing  
wants to be in motion,  
to travel with you  
as you return  
to level ground.

It will seem strange  
how quiet this blessing becomes  
when it returns to earth.

It is not shy.  
It is not afraid.

It simply knows  
how to bide its time,  
to watch and wait,  
to discern and pray

until the moment comes  
when it will reveal  
everything it knows,  
when it will shine forth  
with all it has seen,  
when it will dazzle  
with the unforgettable light  
you have carried  
all this way.

*Jan Richardson*

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with you all, now and evermore.

**AMEN.**

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Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. AMEN.**

***IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OTHERS FOR REFRESHMENTS  
AFTER THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:***

*Search for Zoom, click 'Join Meeting' and use Meeting ID: 646 331 066 &  
Password: 123654*

*(Or, if you prefer to telephone in, dial: 0131 460 1196,  
and follow the instructions, using ID and Password above)*

*There is also a link in the e-mail that came out with Partners this week,  
which will take you straight there.*